

REMARKS

Foreign Priority:

Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging Applicant's claim to foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d), and that the certified copy of the priority document has been received.

Drawings:

Applicant also thanks the Examiner for indicating that the drawings filed on November 25, 2003 have been accepted.

Claim Rejections:

Claims 1-8 are all of the claims pending in the present application, and currently all of these claims stand rejected.

35 U.S.C. § 102(b) Rejection - Claims 1-8:

Claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,349,529 to Masumoto et al. In view of the following discussion, Applicant respectfully traverses the above rejection.

Masumoto is directed to determining and correcting an erroneous magnetization vector, would could adversely affect the navigation system of a vehicle. Namely, a corrected magnetization vector M_n is calculated using a magnetization vector M_{n-1} , a weighting coefficient h_n and a substantially instantaneous magnetization vector H_n . To determine the substantially instantaneous magnetization vector H_n , Masumoto discloses using an instantaneous direction vector R_n , among other variables. Col. 4, lines 16-44.

However, with this disclosure, Masumoto fails to disclose each and every feature of the claimed invention. Specifically, the claimed invention (as set forth in the amended claims) is directed to a direction indicating device for a vehicle that includes, *inter alia*, a display directional section determining unit that determines a current display directional section in consideration of “historical information of the directional section of the vehicle” specified by a directional section specifying unit and a previous display directional section. *See* claim 1. Thus, the claimed invention uses directional section information, such as N (north), S (south), NE (north east), etc. as historical information to determine a current display directional section. This is not disclosed in any of the prior art of record, specifically Masumoto.

Stated simply, Masumoto fails to disclose using directional section information as historical information of any kind.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that Masumoto fails to disclose each and every feature of the claimed invention. Therefore, Masumoto fails to anticipate claims 1-8 of the present application, as required by 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). Accordingly, Applicant hereby requests the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the above 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejection of these claims.

Conclusion:

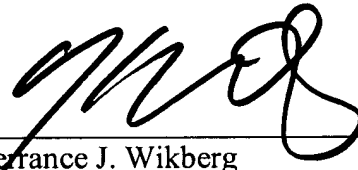
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111
Application Number: 10/720,348

Our Ref: Q78468
Art Unit: 2859

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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